One-of-a-Kind Event

For an inaugural event, few things are more important than making a huge, memorable impact. The 2011 World Textile Summit (WTS), held in Barcelona on Sept. 21, 2011, certainly achieved that. A joint venture between CEMATEX, the International Textile Manufacturers Federation and the International Textile Machinery Association, the one-day event was opened by Kofi Annan, former United Nations Secretary General. He spoke at length about sustainability and the UN Global Compact for business ethics, a cause he has focused on for more than five years since he left office.

Nobel Prize recipient Kofi Annan delivers the keynote speech.

Du Yuzhou, president of the China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC)

Oerlikon Textile CEO Michael Babacan shares his thoughts on technology’s impact on the textile business.

Rufus H. Yerxa, deputy director-general, World Trade Organization

Loek de Vries of Royal Ten Cate discusses how to turn structural change into a competitive advantage.

Panel discussion participants Rufus Yerxa (WTO), Barry Eichengreen (University of California), Nadine Dereza (host), Brian Guidry (Mango), and Dilip Jiwrajka (Alok Industries)

Award-winning journalist Nadine Dereza hosted the first-ever World Textile Summit in Barcelona.